Apollo 8: The Mission That Changed Everything

Lindsey Smith

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Man has always felt the compulsion to explore new places, but all precedents for exploration were obliterated when man went to the moon. In Apollo 8: The Mission That Changed Everything, author Martin W. Sandler tells the story of the first time humans left Earth’s orbit, went out into space, and orbited the moon. In great detail and in historical context, the reader learns how this unexpected mission came about and about the three men who flew aboard the space shuttle Saturn V. The book also describes what these men saw on their incredible journey, outlines how people back on earth felt about the mission, and concludes with information about the continuation of the NASA space program after the mission was over.

In writing this book, Sandler has created a gorgeous and detailed text about man’s first flight into space. The book is replete with photographs documenting the entire timeline of events as well as those taken from space by the astronauts, enabling the reader to feel as though they are a part of the journey. Interspersed throughout the story, the author includes sections of text going into deeper detail about the people who were responsible for making the mission happen, as well as events of the time period, giving the reader greater context for the story. The author’s research is well-documented through source notes and a bibliography, while maintaining easy readability and being thoroughly engaging. This would be an excellent resource for both children and adults seeking to learn more about the evolution of America’s space program.